

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCLANT PRIORITY

USLOSACLANT PRIORITY

USDEL MC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 020400

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TELEGRAM RAISED TO EXDIS)

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, PFOR

SUBJECT: MODIFICATION TO US STRATEGIC POLICY

REF: USNATO 0417

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTFUL SUGGESTIONS REGARDING

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CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES ON US STRATEGIC POLICY AND WISH

TO MEET ALLIED INTEREST IN TOPIC IN MANNER CONSISTENT WITH OUR VIEW THAT STRATEGIC CHANGES ARE EVOLUTIONARY IN NATURE AND SERVE TO STRENGTHEN DETERRENCE.

2. WE BELIEVE IT NECESSARY TO FURNISH ALLIES AN AUTHORITATIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE BRIEFING ON THIS SUBJECT BEFORE PRESENTATION OF THE DEFENSE BUDGET TO CONGRESS (FEBRUARY 5), THE PUBLICATION OF THE SECDEFS ANNUAL POSTURE STATEMENT (LATE FEBRUARY) AND THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL FOREIGN POLICY REPORT ENGENDER FURTHER PRESS COMMENT. WE WISH, HOWEVER, TO AVOID A DETAILED DISCUSSION OF, AND AN EXPERTS SESSION ON, TARGETING PLANS AND OTHER ELEMENTS STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT AND WE DO NOT WANT TO PROVOKE A MAJOR AND CONTINUING ALLIED DEBATE ON STRATEGY.

3. AS A RESULT OF CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION IN WASHINGTON IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO FURNISH BY SEPTEL A STATEMENT, TOGETHER WITH Q'S AND A'S, FOR USE IN THE NAC, FEBRUARY 4, IF POSSIBLE. WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND REPRESENTATION FROM WASHINGTON TO BRIEF YOU FOR NAC DISCUSSION BUT PREFER THAT YOU FIELD ALL QUESTIONS AFTER STATEMENT YOURSELF. FURTHER, WE WISH THE PRESENCE OF WASHINGTON REPRESENTATION TO GO UNANNOUNCED TO AVOID HAVING CAPITALS SEND OFFICIALS OR EXPERTS TO BRUSSELS FOR NAC MEETING.

4. WE ARE NOT PREPARED AT THIS TIME TO ENTER INTO MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION IN THE NPG PERMREPS/STAFF GROUP. HOWEVER, YOU MAY SAY THAT SECDEF WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER IN NPG AND DPC MINISTERIALS SCHEDULED LATER THIS YEAR. KISSINGER

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